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Chapter 1

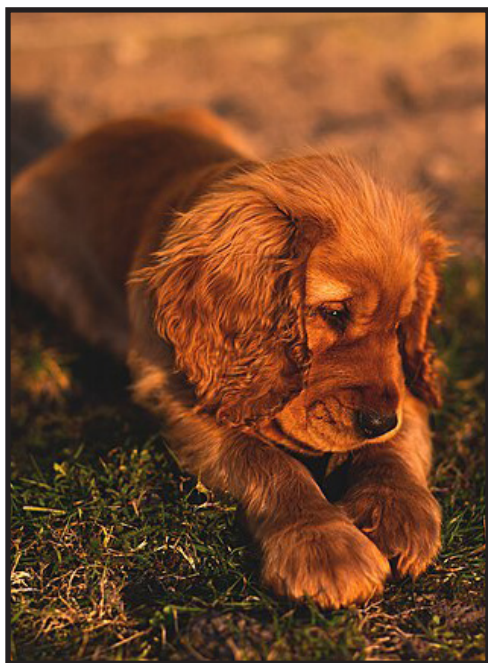
Sporting Dogs

Sporting dog, classification used by breeders and kennel clubs to designate dogs bred for pointing, flushing, and retrieving game. These dogs hunt by air scent—as opposed to most hounds, which are ground scenters—and their quarry is primarily game birds.

Included are the pointers, setters, retrievers, and spaniels. Pointers stand with nose and body rigidly still in front of their quarry, thus directing the hunter to its location. The setters were originally trained to set, or crouch, in front of game, the hunter then making the capture with a net.

As bird shooting became popular, setters were trained to point. Retrievers find and return killed game to the hunter. Land spaniels spring, or flush, game, i.e., they startle a bird from its cover into flight. Water spaniels and many retrievers are especially equipped, as with a water-repellent coat and webbed feet, for retrieving downed waterfowl.

The following breeds are designated sporting dogs by the American Kennel Club: American water spaniel, Brittany spaniel, Chesapeake Bay retriever, clumber spaniel, cocker spaniel, curly-coated retriever, English cocker spaniel, English setter, English springer spaniel, field spaniel, flat-coated retriever, German shorthaired pointer, , golden retriever, Gordon setter, Irish setter, Irish water spaniel, Labrador retriever, pointer, Sussex spaniel, Vizsla, Weimaraner, Welsh springer spaniel, and wirehaired pointing griffon.



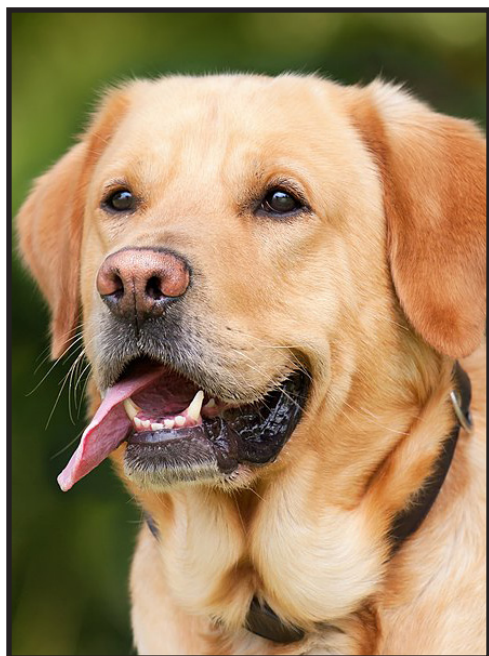
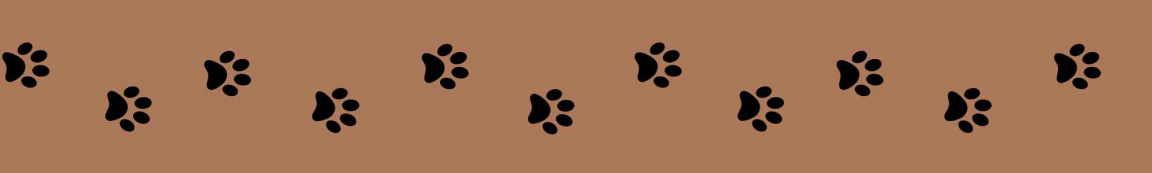
Cocker Spaniel

Cocker spaniel, breed of small sporting dog developed from English cocker spaniels brought to the United States in the 1880s. It stands from 14 to 15 in. (35.6–38.1 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs about 25 lb (11.3 kg). Its silky, flat, or wavy coat is moderately long and forms fringes, or feathers, on the underside of the body and on the legs, chest, and ears. The coat may be of any solid color

or a combination of two or more colors (parti-colored), such as white with red or tan markings or black and tan. The tail is docked. The smallest of the sporting-dog breeds, cockers can be trained to flush game and retrieve. According to some authorities their name derives from their proficiency at hunting woodcocks. They have also been exceptionally popular as house pets.

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Labrador Retriever

Labrador retriever, breed of large sporting dog whose origins are obscure but whose immediate ancestors were developed in Newfoundland and brought to England in the early 1800s. It stands about 23 in. (58.4 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs between 60 and 75 lb (27.2–34.1 kg). The dense, short coat is flat and oily, providing great resistance to cold weather and icy water. Its color may be

black, chocolate, or yellow. The Labrador retriever is widely used to hunt both waterfowl and upland game birds; its loyal and gentle disposition has made it very popular as a companion dog.

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Irish Setter



Irish setter, breed of large sporting dog developed in Ireland in the 18th cent. It stands about 26 in. (66.0 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs between 50 and 70 lb (22.7–31.8 kg). Its moderately long, silky coat is flat or slightly wavy and forms fringes of longer hair, or feathers, on the ears, chest, belly, back of legs, and tail. The American variety is a solid chestnut red or mahogany color, while its Irish counterpart

is often parti-colored—red and white. Although originally bred as a field hunter and still used in that capacity today, the striking appearance of the Irish setter has led many breeders to strive for bench-competition excellence rather than field ability.

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Chapter 2

Working Dogs

Working dog, classification used by breeders and kennel clubs to designate dogs raised by humans to herd cattle and sheep, as draft animals, as message dispatchers in wartime, in police and rescue work, as guardians of persons and property, or as guides (see guide dog) for the blind.

The following breeds are designated working dogs by the American Kennel Club: Alaskan malamute, Belgian Malinois, Belgian sheepdog, Belgian Tervuren, Bernese mountain dog, Bouvier des Flandres, boxer, Briard, bull mastiff, Cardigan Welsh corgi, collie, Doberman pinscher, German shepherd, Great Dane, Great Pyrenees, komondor, kuvasz, mastiff, Newfoundland, old English sheepdog, Pembroke Welsh corgi, puli, Rottweiler, Samoyed, schnauzer (giant and standard), Shetland sheepdog, Siberian husky, and St. Bernard.

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Bernese Mountain Dog

Bernese mountain dog, a breed of sturdy working dog first brought to Switzerland by the invading Roman armies over two millennia ago. It stands from 23 to 27 in. (58–69 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 50 to 70 lb (23–32 kg). Its long, silky, slightly wavy coat is jet black with a white blaze up the face, white on the chest, feet, and tip of tail, and russet-brown or tan markings on all four legs and

above the eyes. For hundreds of years in its native canton of Bern, the Bernese mountain dog was used as a draft animal by the local merchants to haul cartloads of goods to market. Today it is raised principally for show competition and as a pet.

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Newfoundland

Newfoundland, breed of massive, powerful working dog developed in Newfoundland, probably in the 17th cent., and later perfected in England.

It stands from 25 to 28 in. (63.5–71.1 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 110 to 150 lb (49.9–68.1 kg). Its dense, flat-lying coat is coarse and rather oily and is usually a dull jet black in color. The Landseer type of Newfoundland

is one in which the color is other than solid black, the most frequent being black with white markings.

The precise origin of the Newfoundland is obscure, but the most convincing evidence points to the crossbreeding of arctic and other dogs native to Newfoundland with the ship dogs of European fishermen. Specimens of the resulting breed, similar to the modern variety but smaller, were then brought to England, where their size and appearance were refined.

The Newfoundland is an excellent water dog and has been used to rescue drowning people. It also has been a popular draft animal, particularly on its native island. Today it is raised for show competition and as a family companion, being especially gentle with children.

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Schnauzer

Schnauzer, a sturdy, wirehaired dog developed in S Germany. There are three separate breeds of schnauzer distinguished by their size. The standard schnauzer is a medium-sized dog whose existence in Germany dates back to the 15th cent. It stands from 17 to 20 in. (43.1–50.8 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 27 to 37 lb (12.3–16.8 kg).

The giant schnauzer, developed at the end of the 19th cent. by crossing the standard schnauzer with various native sheepherding and farm dogs and later the Great Dane, stands from 21 1/2 to 25 1/2 in. (54.6–64.8 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 65 to 78 lb (29.5–35.4 kg). The miniature schnauzer, also developed around the end of the 19th cent., resulted from the crossing of standard schnauzer to affenpinscher. It stands from 12 to 14 in. (30.5–35.6 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 13 to 15 lb (5.9–6.8 kg).

The coat of all three breeds may be pepper and salt, silver, or black in color. The standard schnauzer, listed by the American Kennel Club in the working-dog group, was originally used as a ratter, farm dog, and guardian. Later, both it and the giant schnauzer, also a working dog and bred especially for driving cattle, were used in police work. The miniature schnauzer is classified in the terrier group and has been raised primarily as a pet.



Nonsporting Dogs

Nonsporting dog, classification used by breeders and kennel clubs to designate dogs that may formerly have been bred to hunt or work but that are now raised chiefly as house pets and companions. The following breeds are classified as nonsporting dogs by the American Kennel Club: Boston terrier, bulldog, chow chow, Dalmatian, French bulldog, Keeshond, Lhasa apso, poodle, and schipperke.

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Chow Chow

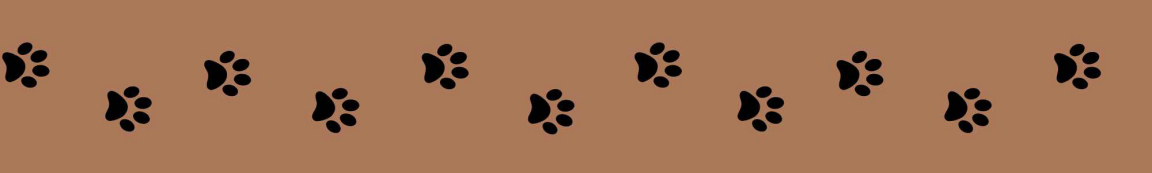
Chow chow, breed of powerful nonsporting dog whose origins are obscure but whose development was accomplished many centuries ago in China. It stands from 18 to 20 in. (45.7–50.8 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 50 to 60 lb (22.7–27.2 kg). Its abundant double coat consists of a soft, woolly underlayer and a dense, straight topcoat that stands out from the body. It may be any

solid color.

The ancestors of the chow chow are believed by some to have been the mastiff of Tibet and the Samoyed. However, because it is the only breed possessing a black tongue, other authorities contend that it is a basic breed and the progenitor of the Samoyed, the Keeshond, the Norwegian elkhound, and the Pomeranian. Whatever the truth of its origins, it was used as an all-purpose hunting dog in China 2,000 years ago.

Its name derives from the pidgin-English term for miscellaneous cargo, of which the dog formed a part, brought from China to England in the late 18th cent. It is raised as a companion and house pet.

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Dalmatian

Dalmatian, a breed of hardy, strong-bodied nonsporting dog probably developed in the Austrian province of Dalmatia (now Croatia) several hundred years ago. It stands from 19 to 23 in. (48.3–58.4 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 35 to 50 lb (15.9–22.7 kg). Its short, dense, hard coat is glossy white with black or dark-brown spots. Long associated with horses and valued for its

speed, endurance, and dependable nature, the Dalmatian has also been called the coach dog and the firehouse dog. In addition to its historical service as protector and companion to carriages, it has also successfully assumed many other roles, e.g., sentinel, draft animal, shepherd, sporting dog, and circus performer. Today it is largely raised as a companion and pet.

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Poodle

Poodle, popular breed of dog probably originating in Germany but generally associated with France, where it has been raised for centuries.

There are three varieties, differing in size only. The standard poodle, classified in the nonsporting-dog group (see nonsporting dog), stands over 15 in. (38.1 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs from 40 to 55 lb (18.1–24.9 kg). The miniature, also listed in the

nonsporting-dog group, stands from 10 to 15 in. (25.4–38.1 cm) high at the withers and weighs from 14 to 16 lb (6.4–7.3 kg). The toy poodle, which is classified as a toy dog, stands up to 10 in. (25.4 cm) high at the shoulder and weighs about 6 lb (2.7 kg).

The profuse coat is dense and hard-textured and may be any solid color. If left untended, the coat will grow out in matted, ropelike cords. The poodle is clipped in a variety of styles (e.g., the puppy trim, the continental clip, and the English-saddle clip), a practice now carried out largely for show or aesthetic purposes but originally for utilitarian value.

The poodle was widely used in France as a waterfowl retriever, but its heavy coat required clipping so as not to hinder the dog's progress through water. The poodle has also been raised as a circus and vaudeville performer and as a hunter of truffles. Today it is usually kept as a companion and pet.

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